

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Nozawa et al.)
)
Serial No.: 10/821,508)
)
Filed: April 9, 2004)
)
For: Manufacturing Method And)
Apparatus of Phase Mask Shift)
Blank)
)
Examiner: Rodney Glenn McDonald)
)
Art Unit: 1753)
)
Confirmation No.: 9824)

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, Applicant hereby call the Examiner's attention to documents listed on the attached form, which documents may be material to the examination of this application. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a), a copy of the US Patent is not enclosed.

No inference should be drawn that any apparatus disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention.

The citation of the above-discussed documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence. Citation of any document herein is not to be construed as an admission that any subject matter disclosed in the document is necessarily

within the inventive field of endeavor, that any disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention.

Applicant also respectfully reserves the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure of those documents discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application.

This reference was cited in an Office Action dated April 26, 2007 for related application 10/771,997, which is within the last three months. No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this IDS be entered and considered.

Please charge our Deposit Account No. 50/1039 for the fee due for this IDS.

Date: May 16, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

/Mark J. Murphy/
Mark J. Murphy
Registration No. 34,225

COOK, ALEX, McFARRON, MANZO,
CUMMINGS & MEHLER, Ltd.
200 West Adams Street, Suite 2850
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 236-8500

Customer No. 26568

Application Number	10/821,508
Filing Date	April 9, 2004
First Named Inventor	Nozawa et al.
Art Unit	1753
Examiner Name	Rodney Glenn McDonald
Attorney Docket Number	0524-0139.02

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